

FAVOURITE TALES FROM THE  
QURAN

TWO TALES:

The Father's Love  
The Two Dreams

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# The Father's Love

SURAH YUSUF 12:4-22

The Prophet Yaqub (Jacob) ﷺ, was a God-fearing man. He lived in Canaan, some thirty miles north of Jerusalem. He and his family lived in tents. He had twelve sons. Yusuf (Joseph) ﷺ was the second youngest.

One day, Yusuf ﷺ had an unusual dream, in which eleven stars and the sun and the moon all bowed down to him. When his father heard about this dream, he knew that great things would happen his young and best-loved son.



Being aware of their father's love for Yusuf عليه السلام, the ten big brothers felt so bad about this that they began to hate him. They would go off to look after the family's flocks, grumbling and muttering.

They became so jealous of their father's love for this younger brother that they banded together and hatched a plot to kill him.

One day they took him with them, saying that they were only going out on a picnic.

Coming close to a dry well, they took him unaware, and seizing him from behind, they dragged him to the well and threw him down into it. Yusuf عليه السلام landed on the dry bottom of the well with a thud.





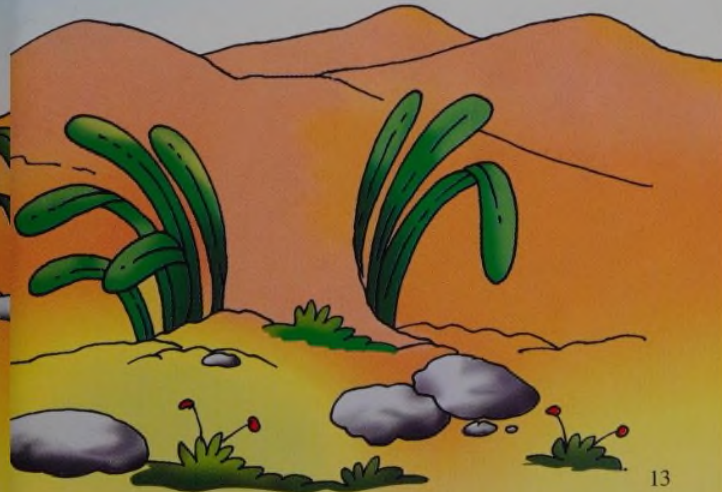
He could not climb those slippery sides to escape. But he was a brave boy, and did not cry. His courage never failed him. He turned towards his Lord for help.

While his dear father wept for him, Yusuf ﷺ lay for three nights at the bottom of the dark well.



In the meanwhile, a caravan from Syria heading for Egypt camped near the well. One of the caravan people threw his bucket into the well to fetch some water.

But, to his surprise, when he pulled up his bucket, there was a good-looking boy clinging to it.

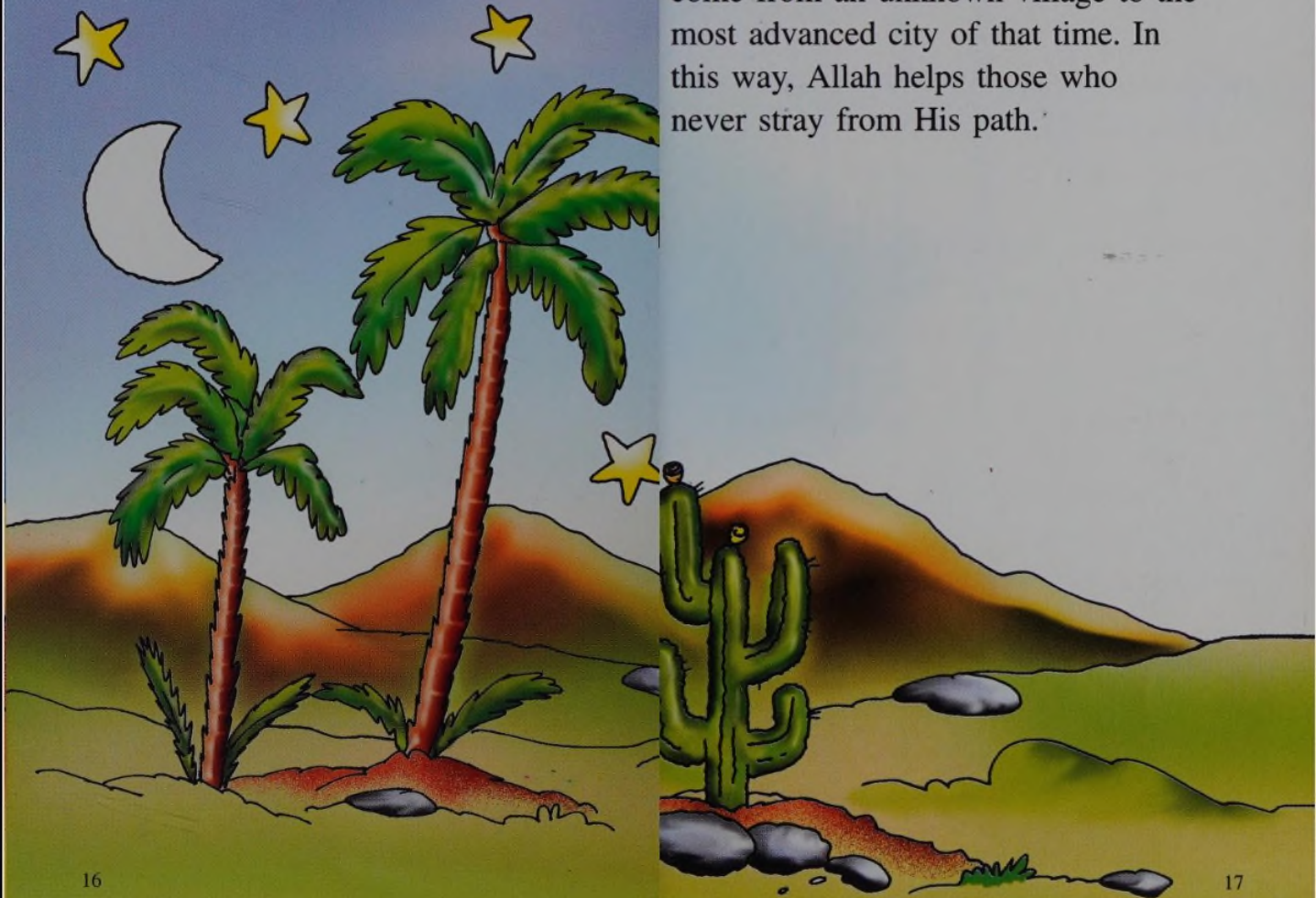






The caravan people took him to Egypt and sold him to an Egyptian prince, who was called the Aziz. The Aziz took this good and sweet boy to his wife and told her to take good care of him.

In this way Allah helped him to come from an unknown village to the most advanced city of that time. In this way, Allah helps those who never stray from His path.





# The Two Dreams

SURAH YUSUF 12:23-101

After some years, although Yusuf عليه السلام had done no wrong, Aziz's wife had the Prophet Yusuf عليه السلام imprisoned.

Prison turned another page in the life of the Prophet Yusuf عليه السلام. Here he met two prisoners. They were servants in the royal court, who had made the king angry. Both of them had strange dreams.

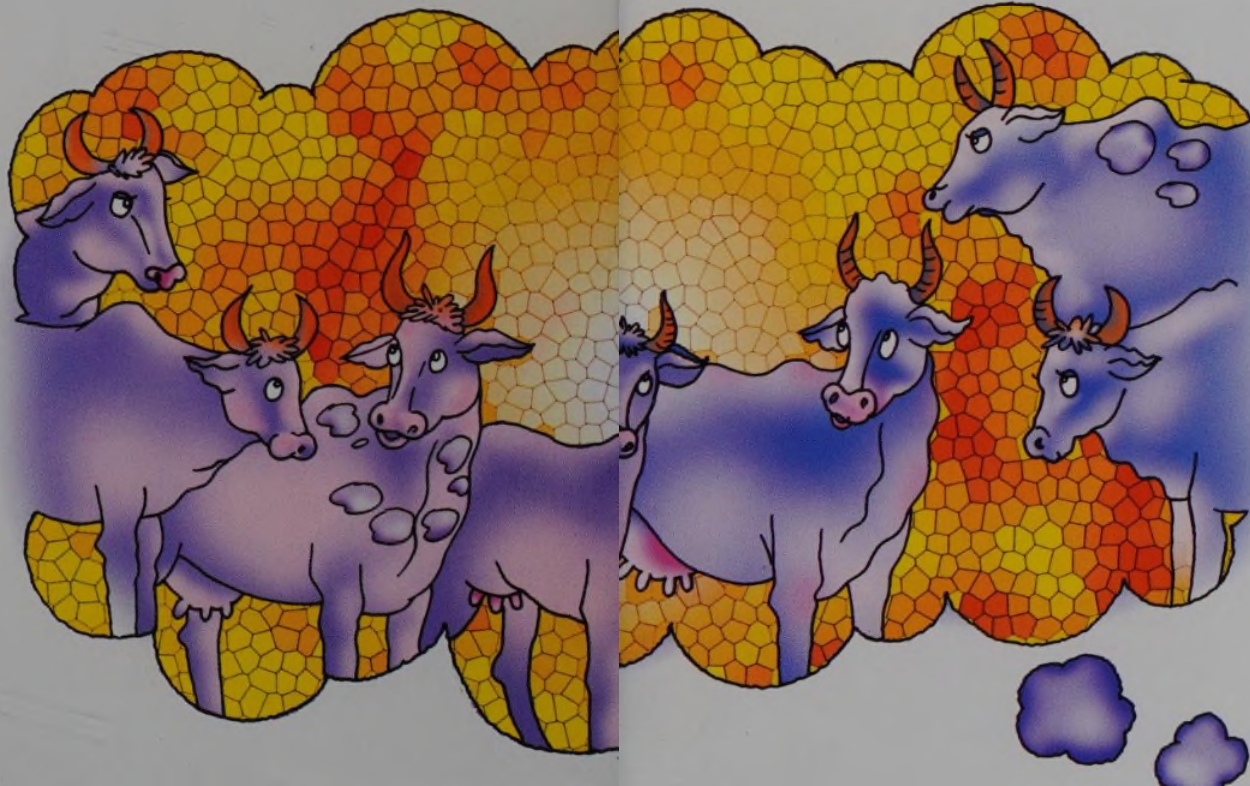
Yusuf عليه السلام told them what they meant. One of them, a cup bearer, was freed and taken back into the king's service.





One day the king dreamt that seven lean cows were eating up seven fat ones and seven dried-up ears of corn were taking the place of seven green ones.

No one was able to say what this unusual dream meant. At that time, when the cup bearer asked him, Yusuf عليه السلام told the meaning of the dream.



He explained that in the lands of Egypt there would be seven years when everyone was rich and had enough to eat. But after these seven years of plenty, there would come seven terrible years when there would be nothing to eat.

The king greatly liked his explanation. There and then he made it the Prophet Yusuf's task to look after the stores of grain so that there would be enough grain to meet all needs during the famine seven years later.



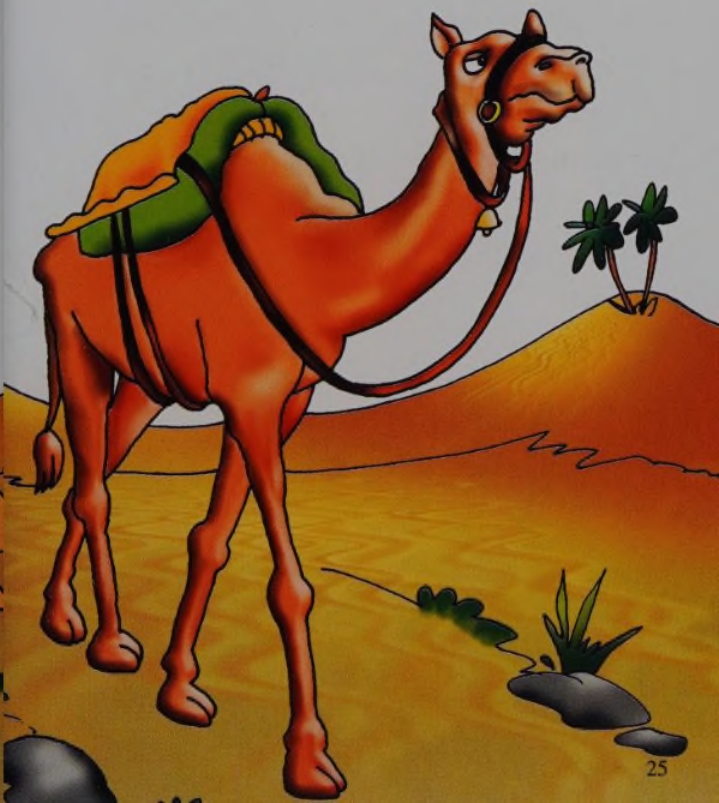


The seven good years passed and then, as Yusuf عليه السلام had said, there came the seven lean and hungry years, when no crops would grow and everyone went hungry.

Back in the land of Canaan, Yaqub عليه السلام and his sons were hit by the famine too. So, the ten sons travelled to Egypt in search of grain.



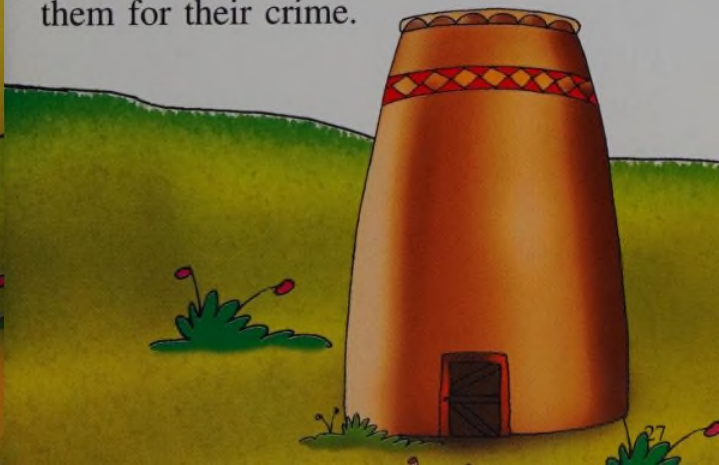
When they came to the chief of the storehouses in Egypt, Yusuf عليه السلام recognized them.





However, they did not realize that this minister, from whom they had come to seek grain, was their own brother Yusuf عليه السلام, whom they had thrown into a dry well many years ago.

The Prophet Yusuf عليه السلام received them honourably, and asked them about their family. He then gave them an ample supply of grain and put their money back in their packs. The brothers made further visits. Finally, the Prophet Yusuf عليه السلام revealed his identity to them and forgave them for their crime.



He asked them to bring their aged parents. In the end, the family was reunited and the Prophet Yusuf ﷺ hugged his parents and made them sit on the throne, saying: "Welcome to Egypt, in safety if Allah wills!"

Seeing how great the Prophet Yusuf ﷺ was, they all fell flat on the ground to show their thanks and thier awe. "This," the Prophet Yusuf ﷺ reminded his father, "is the meaning of my dream, which my Lord has made come true." The dream that the Prophet Yusuf ﷺ had as a boy, of the sun, the moon and the eleven stars bowing down to the ground before him, had at last come true.



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Best-selling author, Saniyasnain Khan, has written numerous books for children. This series reflects his own love of storytelling and deep respect for the eternal message of the Quran. He hopes that this series will make these stories memorable for young children and will act as a foundation on which they may build a growing knowledge of Islam.

